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THE DISPATCH, FOUNDED 1856.

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RICHMOND, VA., SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1903.

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## PRIMARIES AS VIEWED BY EDITORS

Expressions Received  
From Many Sections.

### MAJORITY FOR PRIMARY PLAN

But a Majority is Opposed to  
the Viva Voce System  
Employed.

### SUBJECT DISCUSSED AT LENGTH BY SOME

From the General Trend of the  
Replies Received it is Gathered  
That the Primary Will  
Prove Acceptable if the  
Viva Voce Feature Shall  
Be Abolished.

With a view to ascertaining the sentiment of the Virginia editors and their constituency on the subject of primary elections and viva voce voting, under date of October 28th, The Times-Dispatch sent to the editor of each paper holding membership in the Virginia Press Association a circular letter containing the following questions:

1. Do you favor the primary plan?
2. Do you favor the viva voce voting?
3. What is the general sentiment of the people in your community on these two questions?

The replies so far as received are published below:

Norfolk, Va., Oct. 31.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:  
Sir,—Replying to your three queries, I would say:

1. I do; that I was associated with others who secured a legalized primary for Norfolk as far back as 1888.
2. I do; I think that a properly conducted viva voce election is preferable to any other.

3. So far as the primary plan is concerned, there is no division of sentiment among the great body of voters; they have turned their backs upon the old ward-meeting system and favor primaries. As to the viva voce system, however, I do not feel that I am competent to answer the question, for as much as I have been a part of the discussion of the subject, I think that the system is not viewed with favor by the "practical politicians," who make a trade of politics, but whether or not the masses hold similar views I am unable to state. I will say, in conclusion, that I have witnessed several very sudden conversions on the part of so-called leaders since Carter Glass took up the fight of William Shands, of Southampton county, (the real beginning of the new era upon which the State has entered), a few years ago and I am satisfied that the "reaction" to whom I refer would readily change their views should they find the current running against them. As yet they are doing most of the talking.

Yours very truly,  
JOSEPH G. FIVEASH,  
Editor Public Ledger.

Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch.

Sir,—I am in receipt of your favor of recent date asking the following questions:

1. Do you favor the primary plan?
2. Do you favor the viva voce method of voting?
3. What is the general sentiment of the people in your community on these two questions?

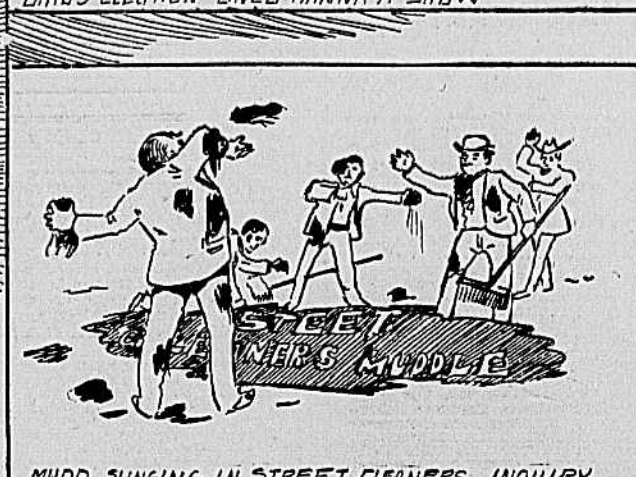
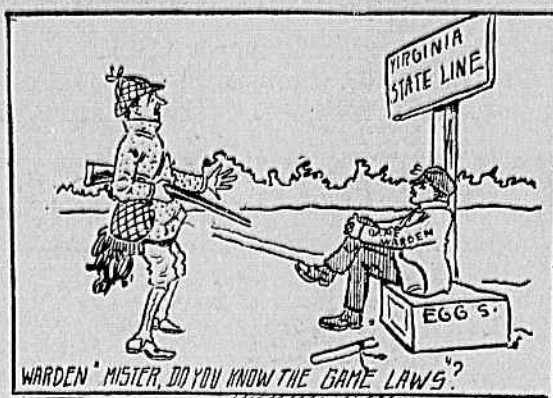
In reply thereto, I beg to say:

1. The primary plan of making nominations seems to me to be a matter of course as the system of book-keeping employed in a business house. It would be as rational for a business house to call together at the end of the week its employees and depend upon their statements for an estimate of the business done as to rely upon the mass meeting for the ascertainment of the party will. In a country where government is by party, it is a mere commonplace to say that an accurate means of ascertaining the party will is just as important as an accurate means of ascertaining the necessity of a primary.

2. I am opposed to the viva voce system of voting in primaries. The basis under the organization of society as it exists to-day, it is not and cannot be an accurate means of ascertaining the party will. The system suited a period in which every voter practically was his own master, well enough. The viva voce method is merely an ill advised attempt to fit conditions to a system instead of fitting the system to conditions. We have no longer a society of punctilious planters, but a society largely composed of "second-hand" employees and anything but punctilious employers. To insist upon the viva voce primary under these conditions is to establish elementary wisdom and disregard the ordinary lessons of experience.

3. The general sentiment here is beyond question in favor of the primary plan of making nominations. Indeed there has not been, so far as I have heard, any suggestion that the plan be abandoned. It is, however, more or less difficult to gauge the sentiment as to the viva voce method of voting. The recent primaries here have more or less confused the public mind. In that the primaries were secret, though the viva voce method was used. This much, however, can be said: that there were numerous protests against compulsory public voting, whereas there has been no appreciable demand for such a system of voting. In short, if it were left to a poll of Norfolk Democrats to determine the method of making nominations they would probably declare, by a vote of two to one, in

(Continued on Second Page.)



## SOLONS TO COME IN THIS WEEK

Legislature Opens Up on  
Tuesday at Noon.

### NEW SESSION IN JANUARY

Law-Makers to be Here Practically all the  
Winter.

### COMMITTEE ON FINAL REVISION

Their Report the First Thing in  
Order, But Much Other Business Will be Transacted.  
Something About the  
Work of the New Body.  
Ryan a Winner.

Richmond will be flooded with state-men nearly all the winter, two sessions of the Legislature being booked to sit in the Capitol between now and spring.

The present body will meet at noon next Tuesday, and will proceed at once to the consideration of the report of the Committee on Final Revision and Adjustment, much of which is now in the hands of the printer. The report will necessarily be a long one, and will have to be considered with the utmost care, and this in itself will require a great deal of time, though a great many bills left over from the last session and others yet to be introduced will be considered, so that the prediction that the body will sit here until nearly Christmas is not far wrong.

When the House is called to order next Tuesday, there will be two new members. One will be Major J. W. Bruce, of Danville, who was elected on Tuesday to succeed Colonel George C. Cabell, Jr., resigned, and the other Hon. Henry E. Lee, of Nottoway, who takes the place of Congressman R. G. Southall, of Amelia. They were both also chosen for the full term of two years, from January 1st next.

ONE NEW SENATOR.  
In the Senate there will be a new member, Col. George C. Cabell, Jr., of Bedford, but his term will expire with the going out of the old Legislature, unless he shall be chosen for the full term to succeed the late Judge Callaway Brown, who died on Thursday last.

There will be no delay incident to the work of the old Legislature. All the committees are organized, and will proceed as though the recess had been only for a week instead of six months. It is likely that the Revision Committee will ask that the report be considered in sections, and that they be allowed to sit during the sessions of the Legislature, as their work is not yet completed, though all the bills have been finally disposed of and placed in the hands of the printer. The report has been worked out up to a certain point, and this can be taken up by the two bodies and considered while the other is being completed by the committee.

WILL DO MUCH WORK.  
Those who believe the old Legislature will not take up any business save the report of the Revision Committee are vastly mistaken. All the bills that went over from the last session will be considered, and numerous others are to be introduced.

The Revision Committee will make recommendations as to each bill left over, and many of them are of vast importance. The committee has prepared some bills, and will offer them as new measures in the two houses.

One of these is one relating to the subject of insurance. It provides for the creation of the office of insurance commissioner, at a salary of \$2,500, with \$2,000 for expenses. The insurance commissioner is to be elected by the present Legislature, and his term is to be four years, from February 1, 1904.

If the bill passes, Colonel Joseph Burton, Colonel Grenville Gaines, of Fauquier, and Mr. E. G. Akers, of Lynchburg, will be the candidates. It seems pretty well settled that no attempt will be made to modify the Mann liquor bill at the present session. Some amendment may be offered by some member who voted against the bill, but the body is manifestly in favor of it, and will not permit it to be changed in any respect. The Commission on the proposed re-organizing bill will be pushed, but will likely fail. Senator Barksdale will press his general primary law, and there will be many other measures of public interest up at the short session.

No one will postulate on public affairs expects the old Legislature to leave Richmond until about December 20th, and all those connected in any way with the body are preparing to stay that long.

As it will be an adjourned session, Governor Montague will not submit a message to the body when it meets next Tuesday.

The New Session.  
Some lively times are expected when the new Legislature meets on January 1st for its regular session of sixty days. It will be the first elected under the new Constitution, and that instrument will apply to its proceedings in every respect. Forty-six of the House members will be new ones, and fourteen out of the Senate. In the present body, though the following have hitherto been in one branch or the other: H. C. Lowry, Bedford; Dr. R. G. Powell, Brunswick; C. H. Harrison, Powhatan; T. B. Clarke, Dinwiddie; J. M. Stubbs, Gloucester; Dr. Charles Smith, Northumberland; Dr. S. R. Sayre, Wythe; Camm Patterson, Buckingham; and A. A. Phleger, Montgomery. A new Senator will have to be chosen to succeed the late lamented Callaway.

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## EVENTS, LOCAL AND FOREIGN, IN HUMOROUS GUISE.

### MANY WILL HAVE TO MOVE

Great Upheaval Expected When  
Conference Meets This Week  
in Charlottesville.

### KELLAM-CHRISTIAN MATTER

This, Among Other Things, Will  
Serve to Make Session Live-ly—Many Rumors Afloat.

Six Methodist pastors of Richmond will leave the city Tuesday afternoon with the certainty of not returning to their present charges. Each of the others will be prepared for a change that may sweep them away, too. Both of the presiding elders of the two districts into which the city is divided will also come under the law of the church that compels the itinerant minister to change his field at least once in four years.

The party of ministers will be bound for the annual conference of Virginia that assembles Wednesday morning in Charlottesville for a regular session. For the next week or ten days they will be busily engaged in the work of the body, while the Methodists of the State look on with all quivers. The attendance promises to be very large. Every Methodist minister in Richmond will be there, and there will be lay delegates, besides. Trains will leave in the afternoon and at night on Tuesday. Special conference transportation arrangements have been made. Tickets at reduced prices will be on sale for four days, beginning tomorrow, and will be good until November 2d.

The Changes.  
At each meeting of the conference the matter of paramount importance is, of course, the appointment of ministers for the next year's work. There are always several incidental issues, frequently very lively ones, but the appointments come always, and are always of the greatest interest. Particularly will this be true this year. It is a talk of the conference that there will be a great upheaval, with some sweeping and unprecedented changes. Nearly every big church in the conference will have a new pastor.

Both presiding elders will move from Richmond. Rev. H. H. Bennett, of Richmond District, will go to Randolph-Macon College. Dr. W. V. Tudor, of West Richmond, will take Mr. Bennett's place at Richmond District. Rev. Dr. R. T. Wilson, of Petersburg, will probably come to West Richmond. The vacancy in the system caused by the removal of Mr. Bennett will probably be filled by the appointment of Rev. Bernard F. Lipscomb to the eldership. It is now generally felt that the proposed revival of two old districts will not occur.

tions will be sent to Bishop Hendrix. Signed by citizens from the Governor of Virginia down, and a committee of ministers and laymen will wait on the presiding officers in reference to the matter.

Three Special Matters.  
The usual work of the conference will keep the delegates busy from the beginning of the session to the end. There will, however, be several special matters, and three of them will be of unusual interest.

The Kellam sensation will probably create a great stir if it gets on the floor of the conference. It is already arousing a great deal of discussion, and signs of a gathering storm are very evident. Whether or not Mr. Kellam will prefer formal charges against the Rev. W. A.

Christian is not known. Both of them will be at the conference, however, and it is very likely that their presence there together will result in an explosion of some sort.

The matter of the Christian Advocate will also create a tremendous debate. The committee appointed to look into the affairs of the paper will make a report. There is a movement on foot looking to conference ownership of the Advocate.

The third matter is that of transfers. Another big church falls into the hands of an outsider—Dr. G. C. Kelley, of Tennessee—and the Virginia ministers are up in arms again. There will probably be something doing in this direction also.

The Presiding Officer.  
The presiding bishop this year is Right Rev. Eugene R. Hendrix, of Missouri.

one of the strongest men in the church. He is an exceedingly fine looking man, with a commanding figure of at least six feet. He is one of the best executive officers in the church. A man of high culture; he is also a preacher of strength and eloquence. He will be welcomed to the conference, where he is already well known.

AFTER MILLIONS  
IN PHILADELPHIA  
OWINGSVILLE, KY., Nov. 7.—Walter and Arthur Watkins, of Paducah and Ashland, Ky., have started for Philadelphia, where they claim they have fallen heir to an estate which lies in the heart of the city and which is said to be worth \$150,000,000.

PARIS, SATURDAY, Nov. 7.—J. M. Wiley of Buffalo, N. Y., called Wednesday on the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, carrying marks of outrageous ill treatment received at Nannheim recently.

Wiley is an ex-Congressman and former consul to Bordeaux. With his wife and little son, he went to take the hydropathic cure for rheumatism at Nannheim. Not content with hotel, Wiley gave notice and paid his bill, and in accordance with custom of the place paid for eight days more.

The boniface claimed payment for a second term of eight days. Wiley refused to pay, and the boniface called officials to seize luggage. This man, who is the bully of the town and terror of foreign guests, attacked Wiley savagely, tore his watch away, dislocated his fingers, bruised his face and otherwise maltreated him. Wiley won his case against the boniface, but the fact remains that Americans going to Nannheim, and who are less able to protect themselves are liable to be subjected to flagrant injustice and official ill treatment.

Wiley declares that visitors get more faith cure than hydropathic.

The friends of Mrs. George Law, of New York, will learn with pleasure that she has recovered from her recent severe illness. Mrs. Law's illness is due to poisoning by lead cure. For some time she listened to the voices of quacks and other alleged healers. One of these induced her to take the "lead cure." Her desertion of regular physicians nearly cost her her life.

American society mourns the departure of three of its stars this week for New York. Mrs. John W. Mackey has sailed to spend several months with her son and daughter-in-law, Mrs. Griswold Gray. Mrs. Beach Grant has likewise departed for New York.

November 10th will witness the marriage of Lucie Faure, daughter of the late President Felix Faure, with Georges Goyan, one of the editors of the Revue Des Deux Mondes.

The bride is very tall, and the bridegroom is very small. One of the bride's witnesses will be Ferdinand Brunetiere, the noted chief academicien and literary critic.

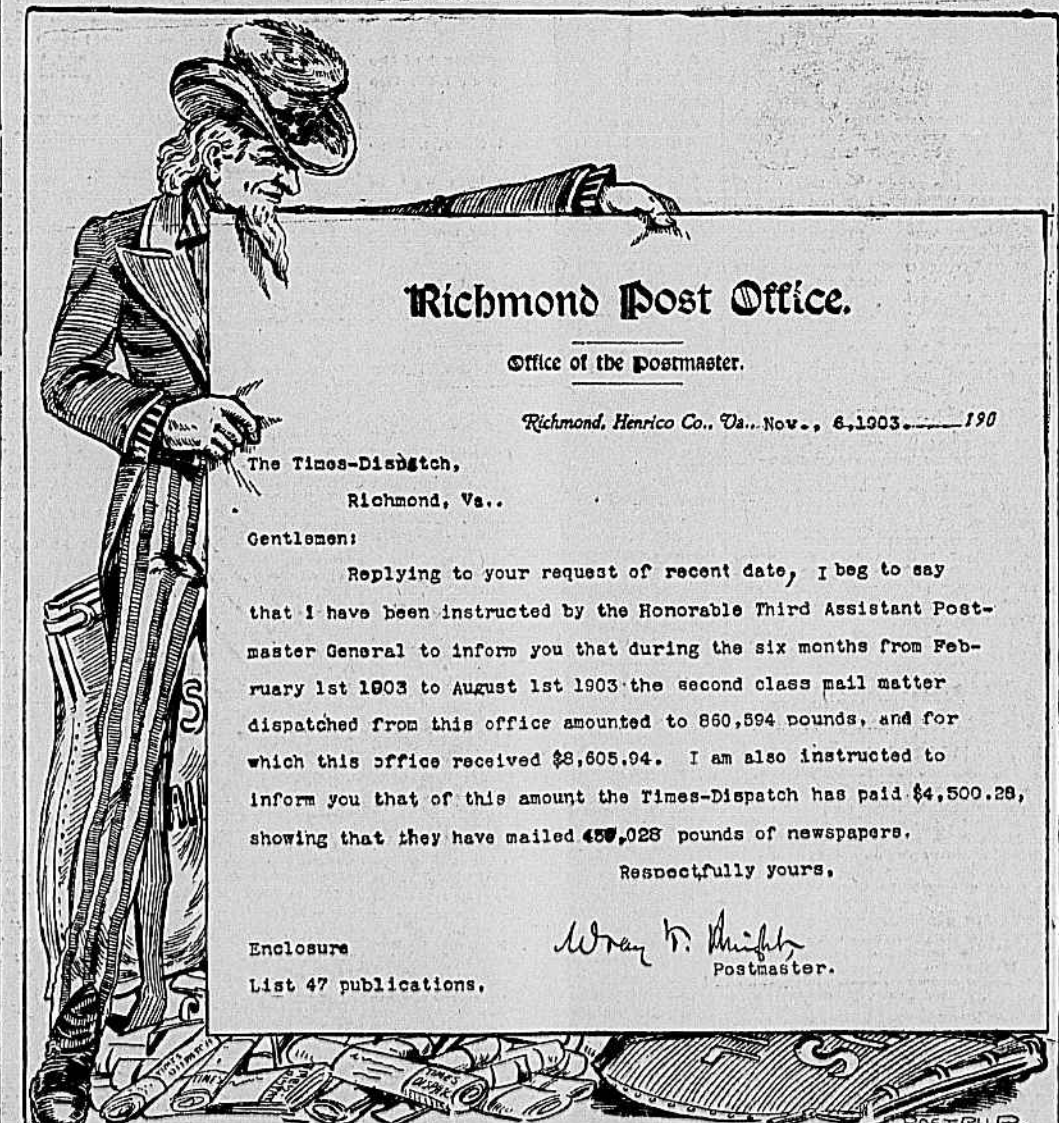
AFRAID OF RAILROADS  
AFTER ONE WRECKING  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
BRIDGETON, N. J., Nov. 7.—George W. Elwell went to Philadelphia yesterday to attend the wedding of his son. This was the first steam-car ride he had taken since the Atlantic City meadow disaster of 1891.

He was in the train which was wrecked at that time, when many persons were killed, mostly residents of Bridgeton. He had not been able to undergo the ordeal of another railroad ride since.

GOAT IN PARSONAGE  
EATS UP SERMONS  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
SHANOKIN, PA., Nov. 7.—A goat entered the parsonage of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Excelsior today during the temporary absence of the pastor, Rev. James Doherty.

Arriving at the preacher's private office, the goat jumped through a big pane of glass into the room, and observing a pile of manuscript sermons and Sunday-school commentaries ate them all before the pastor returned. Rev. Mr. Doherty put the animal to flight with a broomstick.

## TIMES-DISPATCH'S POPULARITY SHOWN BY THE POSTAL RECORDS



The Times-Dispatch is the people's paper. The official records of the postoffice, as well as our subscription lists, show this. The letter from Postmaster Knight, reproduced above, tells its own story—a most gratifying story of the wide and growing popularity of The Times-Dispatch.

The figures given in Mr. Knight's letter cover the period of six months from February 1st to August 1st. The consolidation of The Times and The Dispatch became effective shortly before February 1st, and the circulation of The Times-Dispatch has grown steadily ever since. It reaches more people in Virginia and North Carolina than any other paper, and the number is increasing constantly.

Mr. Knight's letter shows that there are forty-seven publications mailed through the Richmond postoffice, and that The Times-Dispatch pays postage on more matter than all of the other forty-six combined. These forty-six embrace three other dailies, fourteen weeklies, including eight religious papers, several of which have a very large circulation; four semi-monthlies, seventeen monthlies, two tri-monthlies and seven quarterlies.

The people—readers and advertisers alike—appreciate the fact that The Times-Dispatch is the leading paper in Virginia.